

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said upper ~~and/or~~ plate or said lower ~~plates are~~ plate is ceramic.
3. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said at least one active optical component is flip chip mounted on said upper surface of said lower plate.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said at least one active optical component is a detector.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 4, wherein said detector is a PIN detector.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 4, wherein said detector is an avalanche detector.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said module is an optical receiver.
8. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said at least one active optical component is a light source.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 8, wherein said light source is a laser.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 9, wherein said laser is a vertical cavity surface emitting laser.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said module is an optical transmitter.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said upper and lower plates are hermetically sealed.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in Claim 1~~ The method of claim 16, wherein said module further comprises an electrical connector disposed on said lower plate.
14. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 13, wherein said electrical connector is a flex connector.
15. (Currently Amended) ~~A module as claimed in~~ The method of Claim 13, wherein said electrical connector is a series of electrical lead connectors.
16. (Previously Presented) A method of passively aligning a high-speed optical module, said method comprising the steps of:

disposing a ferrule within an aperture of an upper plate at a predetermined distance from said upper plate,

disposing at least one active high speed optical component on a lower plate at a predetermined height above an upper surface of said lower plate, wherein said predetermined

distance and said predetermined height are such that efficient optical coupling in the axial direction is achieved between a fibre disposed within said ferrule and said at least one active high speed optical component,

visually aligning said upper plate with respect to said lower plate using overlapping images of the fibre and the at least one high speed optical component such that efficient optical coupling in the planar direction is achieved between said fibre disposed within said ferrule and said at least one active high speed optical component, and

sealing said upper plate to said lower plate.